guidelines exist in the form of university ordinance in their application to 'minority institutions' which are subject to the pronouncements of the Hon'ble Supreme Court under Article 30(1) of the Constitution of India.

Relation with Namibia

2335. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to improve its relation with Namibia;

(b) if so, the steps taken by both the countries in this regard;

(c) whether Government of Namibia has sought Indian assistance for technical and industrial development in that country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d) Government is committed to further developing and building upon its traditionally close and friendly relations with Namibia in a genuine spirit of South-South cooperation. During the visit to India of the President of Namibia, Dr. Sam Nujoma, on February 13-18 1997, a Convention was concluded between the two countries on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains. Namibia has expressed interest in Indian assistance in the development of drought resistant agriculture, and in the continuing development of its human resources. The President of Namibia also invited Indian businessmen to explore business opportunities in Namibia.

Passport Offices

2336. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pending cases in Passport Offices in issuance of passport at end of year 1996 and the reasons therefor;

(b) the time since when the passport office at Jammu has started its function indicating number of pending cases at end of January, 1997;

(c) the number of cases detected about issuing of fake passports in each State; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) A tabular statement is enclosed. The reasons for pendency is issue of passports are normally, receipt of negative or incomplete reports from concerned police authorities, discrepancies in documents submitted by the applicants particularly in respect of applications received by post, lack of response from applicants who are asked to submit additional documents.

(b) The Passport Office at Jammu started functioning with effect from 31.3.1994. At the end of January, 1997, 12978 applications were pending.

(c) No case of fake passports has been reported from any state to the Ministry during the last year.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

S.No.	Office	Total Pendency
1.	Ahmedabad	16049
2.	Bangalore	6600
3.	Bareilly	5497
4.	Bhopal	3185
5.	Bhubaneshwar	3725
6.	Bombay	13217
7.	Calcutta	11578
8.	Chandigarh	10923
9.	Cochin	7914
10.	Delhi	19455
11.	Goa	713
12.	Guwahati	3128
13.	Hyderabad	30156
14.	Jaipur	8600
15.	Jalandhar	11069
16.	Kozhikode	22368
17.	Lucknow	24311
18.	Madras	18233
19.	Nagpur	1457
20.	Patna	9245
21.	Trichy	22769
22.	Trivandrum	11590
23.	Jammu	13131
		274913

Expulsion of Diplomats

2337. SHRI KAMESHWAR PASWAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States of America has recently expelled two Indian diplomats;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether India has registered its strong protest to U.S.A. in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?